

Hope all is well. We are enjoying an extremely mild winter here this year...well at least so far.

Can you let me know if the name of this generator has ever popped up in anything?

I likely be sending some collaterals your way on this....of course I would love to visit.

One dead, one injured in fire at Heritage-WTI

December 20, 2011

Weirton Daily Times

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EAST LIVERPOOL - A Glenmoor man is dead of injuries received Saturday in a fire at Heritage-WTI's hazardous waste incinerator, and another worker remains hospitalized.

Although company officials declined to identify the victims, they did say one of the men, a service technician who had been with the company five years, died in a Pittsburgh hospital.

According to other sources, the deceased is Thomas Bailey, 52, of Vale Street.

The other employee, John Bechak, age and address unknown, remains in stable condition in a Pittsburgh hospital.

Both men were transported to Pittsburgh after initially being taken to East Liverpool City Hospital following the fire.

Bailey and Bechak were in the process of separating products from a barrel when the material reacted, causing a small explosion, followed by a larger explosion, according to city fire department reports.

The explosion caused a flash fire in which the men were burned.

Fire reports indicated the barrel they were separating contained cutting oil, hafnium, niobium, water and zirconium, and according to Michael Parkes, head of community/employee relations. "We've split containers for years," and the men were doing a routine procedure.

Public relations specialist Raymond Wayne said a closer examination is being conducted on the materials that were being handled by the two men as part of an ongoing investigation into the fire.

"We go to great lengths to make sure our employees are safe in the work place. It is unfortunate this incident occurred," Wayne said, adding that counselors were made available to other employees in response to the fatal incident.

This is the first employee fatality the plant has had, although there was an incident several years ago involving the death of a trucker hauling material to the plant.

The container processing operation was fully suspended as of Monday although other operations were continuing, and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration was on the scene with two inspectors and had met with plant personnel as well as conducted an inspection of the plant.

Wayne commended other employees for their quick response to the fire, saying, "Our crew did a heck of a job to recover (the men) and to get them immediate medical attention."

The automatic fire suppression system activated and extinguished the blaze prior to the fire department's arrival, but city firefighter Jim Allmon drove the ambulance to the hospital while paramedics worked on one of the victims in the back of the ambulance.

There was damage to the surrounding area, vapor recovery hoses, electrical equipment and various piping, the fire department reported.

Whether any changes in operations will result from the fire will depend upon what is shown by the investigation, company officials said.

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-----Forwarded by Lisa Matovic/R5/USEPA/US on 01/31/2012 08:17PM -----

To: Lisa Matovic/R5/USEPA/US@EPA
From: "Ray, Bart" <bart.ray@epa.state.oh.us>
Date: 01/31/2012 10:52AM
Subject: WTI Letter


(See attached file: Incorrect Manifest Letter.pdf)

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December 9, 2010 9:48 PM

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2 Dead in Explosion at W. Va. Chemical Plant

By
CBSNews

Updated at 8:18 p.m. ET

Company officials now say two workers have been killed in an explosion at a small chemical plant in West Virginia. Two more people were injured.

Officials with AL Solutions Inc. said earlier Thursday night that three workers had been killed. Company chief financial officer Ken Kline says that statement was incorrect and was based on information from emergency workers.

Earlier, an explosion rocked a small chemical plant in West Virginia's northern panhandle.

Firefighters were still putting out hot spots from a fire at the plant Thursday afternoon. New Cumberland Police Chief Lester Skinner said the emergency call about the blast at the AL Solutions Inc. plant came in around 1:20 p.m.

Lt. Jeremy Krzys, the first officer on scene, said he had been sitting at a traffic light when he heard the blast and immediately rushed to the plant.

"I just heard a loud bang and all of a sudden you saw black smoke pouring out," Krzys said.

Krzys said he saw two injured men run out of the building when he arrived. He said one man was badly burned, while the other was still on fire. Krzys says co-workers used blankets to extinguish the man who was on fire.

Company officials said in a statement that the worker who was badly burned died later after being transported from the scene for medical treatment. The other injured person, who was an employee for an outside contractor, suffered minor burns.

None of the victims has been identified, though Skinner said he knew both of the men who died and had grown up with them.

The plant site is home to a large, corrugated metal building complex and a smaller stucco building that sits across the parking lot, which is where the men were working. Skinner said they were working with titanium powder, which is used as an alloy additive in aluminum.

The powder is packed into bricks that look similar to hockey pucks, Skinner said. It's highly flammable, which is why firefighters had to finish extinguishing hotspots before investigators could get to the dead men inside.

"It's not like putting out a brush fire or wood," Skinner said.

Labor Department spokeswoman Joanna Hawkins said federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration officials were on their way to investigate.

AL Solutions was formerly called Jamegy Inc. The company website says it also has a plant in Missouri.

At the Mid-Ridge Cafe, which sits along the main highway that leads into town and overlooks the plant, waitress Sandy Lemasters said she didn't hear the blast that was just a mile away. But it didn't take long for people to start coming in to talk about what happened.

People who came in said the men who died were two brothers from the town, Lemasters said.

"They came in and said there were two dead," she said. "It's a shame. That's the third time it's happened there."

In August 1995, a worker was killed and another injured when an explosion and fire ripped through the plant when it was operated by Jamegy.

In 2006, another worker died following an explosion and fire in a production building.

AP

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SHEWCZYK Susan

From: SHEWCZYK Susan [SHEWCZYK.Susan@deq.state.or.us]
Int: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:38 AM
to: 'FULLER Brian'
Cc: SHEWCZYK Susan
Subject: FW: WTI releasing a compilation of info on 12/17 inci

Unable to talk to you since I'm leaving shortly but try calling me if by chance you're available. I talked to Kevin and have a call into Lisa Madavik, Region 5 criminal investigator (440-202-4435) asking her to either return my call or call you in reference to our contacting Wah Chang and doing parallel proceedings.

This is what Kevin and I came up with:

Either letter or by voice that EPA and State of Oregon strongly believe that the ATI/WahChang waste being staged at WTI-Heritage is hazardous waste. Based on the circumstances, the 38 drums being stored at WTI, should be remanifested as a hazardous waste (D001 & D003) and be sent directly to a TSD. Prior to any movement, they must notify us by submitting documentation for the movement and disposal of this hazardous waste and DEQ will review the documentation to determine if it is adequate.

If you agree, we need to get this to Michelle Tarka. Kevin would also like to know what we're doing.

From: Tarka, Michelle [mailto:Michelle.Tarka@epa.state.oh.us]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2012 9:12 AM
To: SHEWCZYK Susan; schanilec.kevin@epamail.epa.gov
Cc: Popotnik, Frank
Subject: WTI releasing a compilation of info on 12/17 inci

I was informed today that WTI will be releasing a compilation of information obtained from their internal investigation into the 12/17/2011 incident/fatality.

WTI intends to release the information next week, to their employees and to the agencies (I believe that means Ohio EPA and OSHA).

WTI will be stamping this information as "Confidential" because they do not want it released to the general public at this time.

WTI will be providing this information to their employees at presentations next week.

I have asked to be present at one of those presentations. WTI has said "of course".

I will be provided with a paper copy of the compilation. Employees will NOT (to my knowledge) be provided a paper copy.

ATI - PF to DEP

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www.depweb.state.pa.us

From: Welsh, Gary L. [<mailto:Gary.Welsh@ATImetals.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 03, 2012 12:26 PM
To: Minor, Paul
Subject: RE: DEP Visit

Good afternoon Paul, The following information is in response to your question regarding the generation and shipping quantities for Zirconium swarf for the years 2009 & 2010.

15 Drums of Zirconium swarf were generated in 2009/early 2010 and shipped to Jamegy/AL Solutions in New Cumberland, MD for recycling as a product on May 6, 2010.

16 Drums of Zirconium swarf were generated in early part of 2010 and shipped to Jamegy/AL Solutions in New Cumberland, MD for recycling as a product on July 19, 2010.

40 Drums of Zirconium swarf were generated in middle part of 2010 and shipped to Jamegy/AL Solutions in New Cumberland, MD for recycling as a product on August 11, 2010.

16 Drums of Zirconium swarf were generated in middle part of 2010 and shipped to Jamegy/AL Solutions in New Cumberland, MD for recycling as a product on August 26, 2010.

Please let us know if you have any further questions or require additional information. Thank you, Gary



Gary L Welsh
Manager Maintenance & Environmental Quality

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From: Minor, Paul [<mailto:pminor@pa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, April 02, 2012 9:58 AM
To: Welsh, Gary L.
Subject: RE: DEP Visit

Gary, Could you give me a call when you have a chance. I had a couple follow up questions. I can be reached at my office number listed below. Thanks

Paul J. Minor | Field Operations Supervisor
Department of Environmental Protection
Southwest Regional Office
400 Waterfront Dr | Pittsburgh, PA 15222



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Update: OSHA Hands Out 18 Violations To Chemical Plant Where Three Men Died Last Year

Reported by: [Latasha Hughes](#)
Web Producer: Bethany Simmons
Reported: Jun. 14, 2011 8:44 PM EDT
Updated: Jun. 14, 2011 10:42 PM EDT

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A new Cumberland chemical plant is cited during an investigation into an explosion that killed three men in December. Al Solutions received 18 violations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration said serious violations included failure to provide a proper hydrogen gas detection system, failure to safely store flammable metals and failure to provide an emergency exit.

Al Solutions also failed to provide personal protective equipment and hazard communication training. The plant says it cannot comment on the investigation.



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